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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

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EDITORIAL OPINION

THE CHANGING SOUTH

An interesting article on population changes in The South appeared in the February issue of The Progressive Farmer. Signed by William D. Poe, Associate Editor, the article states that in 16 Southern States, the population rose from 41 million in 1940 to 48 million in July, 1954.

However, the interesting part of Mr. Poe's article was on the shift in Negro population in recent years. From 1940 to 1950, the South had a gain of 16.5 per cent in white population, while the gain in Negro population was only 1.5 per cent. However, outside of the Southern states, the gain in Negro population was 55.6 per cent!

Six Southern states actually lost in Negro population in the decade. They were: Oklahoma, 13.8 per cent; Arkansas, 11.6 per cent; Mississippi, 8.2 per cent; Kentucky, 5.7 per cent; Georgia, 2.0 per cent; and Alabama, 0.4 per cent.

At the same time, non-Southern states were stacking up tremendous gains in Negro population, as witness these figures, quoted in the article: California 271 per cent; Michigan, 112 per cent; Illinois, 66 per cent; New York, 60 per cent; Ohio 51 per cent; District of Columbia, 50 per cent. In 1940, the South had 72 per cent of all Negro population and the rest of the United States had 28 per cent. In 1950, the South had 62.5 per cent and the rest of the nation had 37.5 per cent.

The South still has more people moving out than are moving in, and that is a matter of concern. Of the 4,215,000 people who left the South in the decade 1940-1950, 2,592,000 or 61 per cent were Negroes.

The other significant trend in the South is a nearer balance as between agriculture and industry. Mechanization of the farm has released vast numbers of people for industrial production.

HANGING OUT THE "Y'LL COME" SIGN

In order, we have come across a sequel to the foregoing comment. "Big Jim" Folsum, resurgent Governor of Alabama, has set up a new slogan for his state. He wants to have the slogan put on Alabama auto license plates. The slogan:

"Y'll Come!"

A week after Bing Crosby introduced this song to the nation, Folsum saw its possibilities as a slogan for the expanding economy of the South. Folsum says his state will build anything from toll roads to chicken coops in order to attract Northern capital and industry.

In fact the movement of payrolls to the South sounds "like a hungry hen picking corn on a tin roof."

"Big Jim" is a highly controversial character in the Deep South. But he has ideas that win public support .. a black top road by every rural mail box .. at least $50 a month for those past 65 .. the best schools.

Folsum wears a 15½ shoe, is six feet eight inches tall. Half a million people crowded Montgomery when he was inaugurated for his present term as Governor. There were 200 bands in the parade. In his address, he said: "Thank Y'll for coming!"

Anyway, the slogan "Y'll Come" may be just the thing for the New South. Our major problem is to retain the charm and dignity of the Old South, while catering to and securing industry for the New South.

WHO GETS THE APPOINTMENTS?

Some rather amazing figures were presented by Senator Eastland (D. La.) during the Senate debate on confirmation of John Marshall Harlan as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Altogether, there have been 90 appointments to the Supreme Court in the history of our country. And there are twenty states with not a single appointment! Delaware, Rhode Island and Vermont were among the original thirteen states, yet they have never had a Supreme Court member. The other states with a blank are: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

In contrast to this, New York has had no less than 13 members on the Supreme Court! In ratio to population, New York has a justice for each 205,973 people; the twenty states listed above with not a single justice, have a population of 28,310,372.

Twenty-nine states have had no Supreme Court appointments since 1900. Virginia is included in this list, and the total population of the twenty-nine states thus overlooked is well over 55 million. A third of the nation not represented on the top court for over half a century!

Virginia has had a grand total of 5 appointments to the Supreme Court all before 1900.

Almost the same picture is revealed in a study of appointments to the Cabinet. Altogether, in the history of our nation, there have been 409 appointments to the Cabinet, and yet there are eight states with no Cabinet appointments whatsoever! These eight states are: Arizona, Florida, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. They have a population of well over six million.

Yet New York States has had an amazing 59 Cabinet appointments! Ohio has had 26, Massachusetts 33, Ohio 26, Pennsylvania 40, and Virginia 26. But of Virginia's 26, only 6 have been since 1900.

Sixteen states have not had a member of the Cabinet since 1900: in addition to the eight listed above who have had none, the other eight are: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi and New Hampshire. The total population of these sixteen states with no member of the Cabinet since 1900, is 21,466,874.

Seven states had had over 50 per cent of appointments to the Cabinet and Supreme Court. They are New York, 72; Pennsylvania, 46; Massachusetts, 41; Ohio, 35; Virginia, 31; Kentucky, 20; Maryland, 19.

We publish this information not in opposition to any particular appointment, but for the enlightenment of our readers. When once a person becomes a Cabinet member or a Supreme Court Justice, he represents ALL of the people, and, in theory at least, there is no regional representation. But, IN FACT, has there not been a balance of regional representation?

Poor old Deleware, Vermont and Rhode Island! In the Union all the way: but never an appointment! We are confident that somewhere along the line in the history of our nation some President could have someone in these ancient and honorable states to entrust with appointment to the Cabinet or Court!

The latest Supreme Court appointee is known as an able lawyer, but with slight judicial experience. The same might be said for Mr. Warren and other recent appointees to the Supreme Court. All good men but most of them stepped up to the top court of the land with little or no judicial experience.

Most of the handful of Senators who voted against confirmation of Mr. Harlan, voted against not for any doubt of his ability, but for the reasons indicated by the statistics above. The eleven who voted against were: Eastland, Ervin, Hill, Johnston (S. C.), Langer, McClellan, Russell, Smathers, Stennis, Thurmond, and Welker.

REASON WHY TEXAS TEACHERS QUIT

(Paris, Texas, News)

More than one thousand women and a couple of hundred men told Texas Classroom Teachers Association why they left teaching in Texas or quit teaching altogether. The survey disclosed, the report says, that 7,000 teachers in Texas quit each year.

Not enough pay was the reason given by the greatest number. Others said overwork, too many demands on out-of-class time, too many meetings after school. Too heavy teaching loads was next in number and there were minor reasons such as dictatorial fellow teachers and administrators, lack of teaching supplies, lack of security in tenure and retirement, and lack of prestige. In the latter category one teacher said, "The parents and children looked down on the teachers generally speaking. The school administrators did the same."

California was contrasted with Texas by several who replied to survey's inquiry, as having better pay, and one said, "I was surprised at the number of Texas teachers in California schools. They get $1,000 to $1,500 more than they would in Texas. If California can do it, why can't Texas?"

With such varying reasons given why teachers quit it will be a real task to so order the Texas school system as to satisfy all of them. It just cannot be done. In teaching, as in all other professions or occupations, there are those who are not satisfied. Texas has what are called teacher colleges in various parts of the state, but not all attending them expect to become teachers. Records of those colleges show that the majority of the graduates do not teach, but enter other professions or occupations. And it is yet to be shown that the turn-over in teachers is much if any greater than that of many other occupations. There is nothing to show that the turn-over in Texas is greater than in other states.

ONE OUT OF EVERY SEVENTEEN

(The Texas Denison Herald)

This is a hazardous life we lead, even without the Communists pestering us directly. While going about their ordinary and extraordinary affairs in 1954, some 91,000 Americans were killed in accidents.

That's not quite as bad as 1953, when the death toll from all mishaps was 95,000. But it's certainly not a cheerful report.

Moreover, about 9,200,000 people were injured and the estimated economic loss from all this human damage came to $10 billion.

The National Safety Council which compiles these figures, notes that 36,300 of the accident deaths were traffic fatalities. That represented a 5 per cent drop from last year's 38,300, and the lowest figure since 1950. With both the population and the number of cars on the road increasing steadily, this would seem to be one of the brightest spots in the report.

Yet, however much improved the percentage may look both for motor accidents and other categories, the grand total still is staggering. And the council reminds that one out of every 17 Americans last year suffered a disabling injury.

THAT MORNING COFFEE BREAK

(The Farmville Herald)

If you are concerned about the habitual ten o'clock coffee or coke break your secretary or employees take, don't worry any longer. The average employee is not working for the employer until 10:30 a. m. anyway—he is working for Uncle Sam! So your rich uncle is paying for this time off (?)

The Kentucky Tax Research Association figured it takes the average man two hours and thirty-five minutes of each day to pay his taxes, both direct and indirect. The report shows that a man earning $4,500 a year who begins work at 8:00 a. m., doesn't start "earning a living" until 10:36 a. m.

In answer to the question of what happens to the rest of the eight-hour day the Association says that Mr. Average Man spends it like this.

For food, one hour and 37 minutes.

For housing, one hour a[nd] four minutes.

For clothing, 36 minut[es].

For transportation, 42 m[inutes].

For medical, personal ... minutes.

For recreation and re... minutes.

For other goods, servic[es] ... utes.

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Finally Talked Herself Out

A certain talkative young lady almost spent a night locked in "Doc" White's drugstore.

She entered Doc's store about 11 PM, going directly to the pay phone. At eleven-thirty Doc went home—not having seen a customer for a half hour. Around midnight he got a call from the store ...she had *finally* run out of conversation (and money) and found the front door locked tight.

Doc vowed he'd leave her there to teach her a lesson. But Mrs. W. spoke up: "Now you go turn her loose. It's hard to cut a good conversation short – something only a woman understands!"

From where I sit, however, plenty of men are as hard to pry away from a telephone as any female. Some people are just naturally long-winded, while others are the silent type—just as some of us like coffee and others prefer a glass of beer. The important thing is to be *considerate*...before friends start giving us the "busy signal."

Joe Marsh

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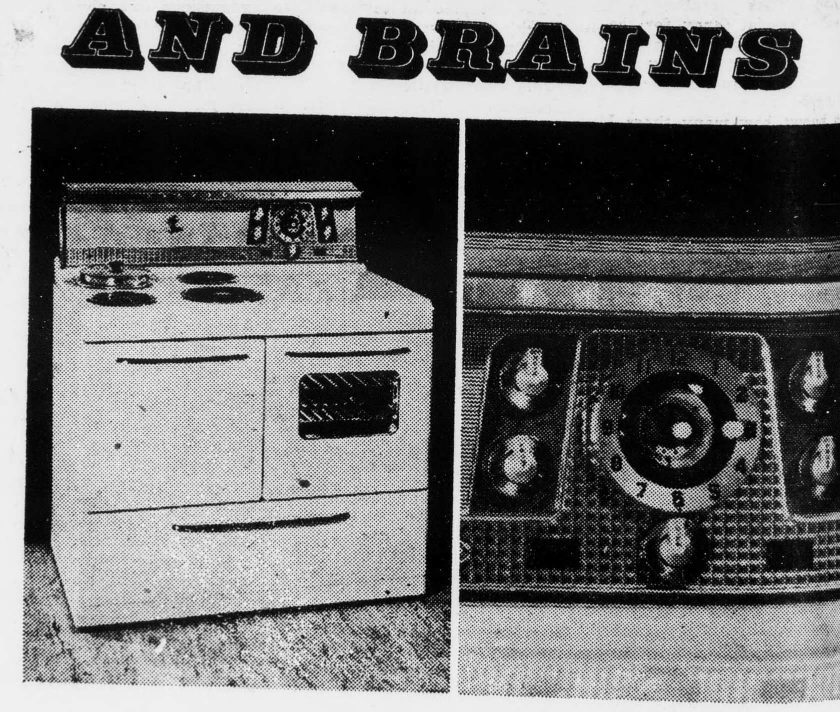

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FOUNDER'S DAY AT LONGWOOD COLLEGE

Farmville, Va.- Representatives of [Lon]gwood College's 23,000 alumnae [will] return to the campus March 26 [to] observe the Seventy-First Found[ers] Day and to pay tribute to Presi[den]t and Mrs. Dabney S. Lancaster. Dr. Lancaster will retire July 1 [afte]r heading the oldest state insti[tuti]on of higher learing for women [in] Virginia for nine years. Longwood [was] established in 1884 as the first [edu]cational institution for the pre[paration] of teachers in the state, and [since] that time, the college has grad[uate]d 9,616 teachers for the public [sch]ools of Virginia.

[Du]ring Dr. Lancaster's tenure, [grea]t strides have been made in every [area] of the college, and the alumnae [hav]e made plans to formally express to him their appreciation for his service and achievements at the general session to be held in Jarman Auditorium at 11 A. M. on Founders Day.

One of the most far reaching improvements in the college has been a selective admissions program instituted by Dr. Lancaster in 1947 which has resulted in Longwood's graduating 55 per cent of the entering classes whereas only 40 per cent were graduated before the program was started. This means, of course, a substantial increase in the number of teachers the college is turning out for the schools of Virginia. If Dr. Lancaster's plans for a new dormitory materialize, Longwood will be able to graduate 200 teachers a year.

Also, curricula have been expanded with emphasis on a sound foundation in the liberal arts and sciences and adequate professional training for teaching. The faculty has been strengthened so that 30 per cent of its members now hold a doctorate and no permanent member of the faculty holds less than a master's degree.

[For] Relief [of] Misery of COLDS take 666

LIQUID OR TABLETS – SAME FAST RELIEF

RECORD OF SOCIETY FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

The Virginia Society for Crippled Children and Adults provided services to 4,725 handicapped children and adults last year through Easter Seal funds, according to a report released today by Dr. W. T. Sanger, of Richmond, state president of the Society. Of this number, 3,564 were children and 1,161 were adults.

Training and treatment centers which the Society sponsors provided services to 3,390 persons; 1,044 received services through the itinerant speech and hearing program while 291 received such services as hospitalization, artificial appliances homebound employment, transportation, summer camping, and other types of services.

Dr. Sanger pointed out the fact that the greatest number of persons were served through the Society's 13 treatment and training centers. "We have a moral obligation to the public to keep these centers in operation during the coming year," he said.

Sgt. Rives Speaks At FFA Father-Son Banquet

By Floyd Fleshman, Reporter

Sergeant C. E. Rives, of the Virginia State Police spoke on "Radar and Highway Safety" at the annual Father and Son Banquet of the Robert E. Lee Chapter of the Future Farmers of America, held in Appomattox on Thursday night, March 17, at 7:00 P. M. Master of ceremonies for the occasion was chapter president, Ralph Harris. The banquet took place in the Liberty Baptist Church.

After the meal the F. F. A. officers began the program with the regular opening ceremony of the F. F. A. Dr. C. A. Collins, Jr., welcomed the group to the Baptist church, then the chapter treasurer, Ralph Reynolds welcomed the fathers and other guests on behalf of the chapter. Ralph also told some of the highlights of the year's work. Introduction of the guests followed by Claude Allen Moore, the F. F. A. vice-president.

"Prosper With Sheep" was the topic of Bobby Barger's speech which he used in the F. F. A. Public Speaking Contest and which he presented to the banquet group. Following his talk, Bobby was awarded an F. F. A. Foundation Award for Public Speaking by Mr. H. B. Pack. Other awards made by Mr. Pack were a Farm Mechanics and a Farm Electrification award, both presented to Claude Allen Moore for outstanding work along those lines.

Mr. J. A. Burke, Superintendent of Schools of Appomattox County, reported to the group on his experiences at the National F. F. A. Convention which he attended in Kansas City last October.

Guest speaker of the evening, Sergeant C. E. Rives, of the Virginia State Police, was introduced by Thomas Weakley, senior F. F. A. student.

Menu for the banquet consisted of fruit juice, ham, celery and pickles, mashed potatoes, lima beans, rolls, butter, coffee, milk and pie and ice cream. The banquet was prepared and served by the ladies of the Liberty Baptist Church in the new community service section of their church.

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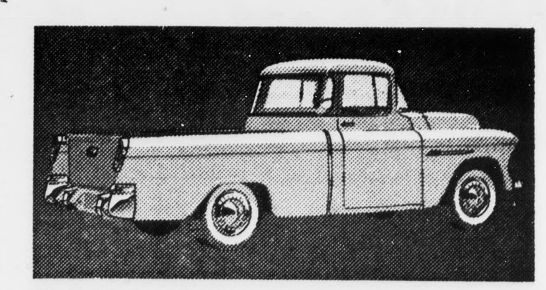

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